

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A content retrieval device for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data and connection method information indicating a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data, said device comprising:

a browser section operable to extract the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, and to then generate a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently;

a protocol control section operable to select, prior to reception of the sub-content data, a suitable connection method for the sub-content data specified by said browser section from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, based on the connection method information extracted by said browser section; and

a communication control section operable to receive the content data specified by said browser section from the server under the connection method selected by said protocol control section; wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method;

the received content data is a text file written in a markup language; and

said browser section is operable to extract the locational information and the connection method information of each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

3. (Currently Amended) A content retrieval device for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data linked to the content data, said device comprising:

a connection information management section operable to manage a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data,

a browser section operable to extract a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, to hold the set as internal information, and to then generate a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently;

a protocol control section operable to receive, upon reception of the retrieval request generated by said browser section, the file attribute pairing with the locational information specified in the retrieval request from said browser section, and to select, prior to reception of the content data, the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute received from said browser section from said connection information management section, from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function; wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method;

the received content data is a text file written in a markup language; and

said browser section is operable to extract the locational information and the file attribute of each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

4. (Previously Presented) A content retrieval device for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein locational information is allocated to content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in the server, part of the locational information representing a feature of the content data, said device comprising:

a connection information management section operable to manage a connection information table including description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data,

a browser section operable to generate a retrieval request specifying locational information of the content data to be retrieved presently;

a protocol control section operable to receive, upon reception of the retrieval request generated by said browser section, a suitable connection method pairing with the

part of the locational information included in the retrieval request from said connection information management section, and to select, prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified by said browser section from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function based on the received suitable connection method from the connection information management section; and

a communication control section operable to receive the content data specified by said browser section from the server under the connection method selected by said protocol control section;

wherein the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.

5. (Previously Presented) A content retrieval device for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the server is capable of separately transmitting a content header including a file attribute of content data, said device comprising:

a connection information management section operable to manage a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data;

a browser section operable to generate a first retrieval request specifying locational information of content data to be retrieved presently;

a protocol control section operable to generate a second retrieval request for retrieving only a content header of the content data specified in the first retrieval request, upon reception of the first retrieval request generated by said browser section; and

a communication control section operable to receive the content header specified in the second retrieval request generated by said protocol control section, wherein

said protocol control section is further operable to select, prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified by said browser section among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, by extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute included in the

content header received by said communication control section from said connection information management section,

said communication control section is further operable to receive the content data specified by said browser section from the server under the connection method selected by said protocol control section, and

the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A content retrieval method for receiving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data and a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data, said method comprising:

extracting the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, and then generating a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently;

selecting, prior to reception of the sub-content data, a suitable connection method for the sub-content data specified in the retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, based on the connection method information extracted in said extracting of the locational information and the connection method information; and

receiving, from the server, the content data specified to be received presently in said generating of the retrieval request under the connection method selected in said selecting of the suitable connection method; wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method;

the received content data received is a text file written in a markup language; and

said extracting of the locational information and the connection method information extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

8. (Currently Amended) A content retrieval method for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data, said method comprising:

managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data;

extracting a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, holding the set as internal information, and then generating a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently; and

receiving, upon reception of the retrieval request generated in said generating of the retrieval request, the extracted file attribute pairing with the locational information of the sub-content data specified in the retrieval request, and selecting, from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, the suitable connection method from the connection information table pairing with the extracted file attribute; wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method;

the received content data is a text file written in a markup language; and

said extracting of the set of the locational information and the file attribute extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

9. (Previously Presented) A content retrieval method for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein locational information is allocated to the content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in the server, part

of the locational information representing a feature of the content data, said method comprising:

- managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data;
- generating a retrieval request specifying locational information of content data to be retrieved presently;

- receiving, upon reception of the retrieval request generated in said generating of the retrieval request, a suitable connection method pairing with the part of the locational information included in the retrieval request from the connection information table, and selecting, prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified by the retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function based on the received suitable connection method from the connection information table;

- wherein the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.

10. (Previously Presented) A content retrieval method for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the server is operable to separately transmit a content header including a file attribute of the content data, said method comprising:

- managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data;
- generating a first retrieval request specifying locational information of the content data to be retrieved presently;

- generating, upon reception of the first retrieval requested generated in said generating of the first retrieval request, a second retrieval request for retrieving only a content header of the content data specified in the first retrieval request;

- receiving, from the server, the content header specified in the second retrieval request generated in said generating of the second retrieval request; and

- selecting, prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified in the first retrieval request from among a plurality of

connection methods by using a multi-call function, by extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute included in the content header received in said receiving of the content header from the connection information table;

wherein the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A program-recorded recording medium on which a program is recorded for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data and a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data, said program being operable to perform a method comprising:

extracting the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, and then generating a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently;

selecting, prior to reception of the sub-content data, a suitable connection method for the sub-content data specified in the retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, based on the connection method information extracted in said extracting of the locational information and the connection method information; and

receiving, from the server, the content data specified to be received presently in said generating of the retrieval request under the connection method selected in said selecting of the suitable connection method; wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching method;

the received content data is a text file written in a markup language; and

said extracting of the locational information and the connection method information extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

13. (Currently Amended) A program-recorded recording medium on which a program is recorded for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data, said program being operable to perform a method comprising:

managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data;

extracting a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, holding the set as internal information, and then generating a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently; and

receiving, upon reception of the retrieval request generated in said generating of the retrieval request, the extracted file attribute pairing with the locational information specified in the retrieval request, and selecting, from among a plurality of connections methods by using a multi-call function, the suitable connection method from the connection information table pairing with the extracted file attribute; wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method;-

the received content data is a text file written in a markup language; and

said extracting of the set of the locational information and the file attribute extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

14. (Previously Presented) A program-recorded recording medium on which a program is recorded for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein locational information is allocated to the content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in the server, part of the locational information



representing a feature of the content data, said program being operable to perform a method comprising:

- managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data;

- receiving, upon reception of the retrieval request generated in said generating of the retrieval request, a suitable connection method pairing with the part of the locational information included in the retrieval request from the connection information table, and selecting prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified by the retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function based on the received suitable connection information from the connection information table;

- wherein the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.

15. (Previously Presented) A program-recorded recording medium on which a program is recorded for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the server is operable to separately transmit a content header including a file attribute of content data, said program being operable to perform a method comprising:

- managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data;

- generating a first retrieval request specifying locational information of the content data to be retrieved presently;

- generating, upon reception of the first retrieval requested generated in said generating of the first retrieval request, a second retrieval request for retrieving only a content header of the content data specified in the first retrieval request; and

- receiving, from the server, the content header specified in the second retrieval request generated in said generating of the second retrieval request; and

- selecting, prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified in the first retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, by extracting the suitable connection

method pairing with the file attribute included in the content header received in said receiving of the content header from the connection information table;

wherein the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A signal operable to execute a computer to perform a method of retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data and a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data, said method comprising:

extracting the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, and then generating a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently; ~~and~~

selecting, prior to reception of the sub-content data, a suitable connection method for the sub-content data specified in the retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, based on the connection method information extracted in said extracting of the locational information and connection method information;

receiving, from the server, the content data specified to be received presently in said generating of the retrieval request under the connection method selected in said selecting of the suitable connection method, wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method;-

the received content data is a text file written in a markup language; and  
said extracting of the locational information and the connection method  
information extracts the locational information and the connection method information of  
each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

18. (Currently Amended) A signal operable to execute a computer to perform a method of retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data, said method comprising:

managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data;

extracting a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, holding the set as internal information, and then generating a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently; and

receiving, upon reception of the retrieval request generated in said generating of the retrieval request, the extracted file attribute pairing with the locational information of the sub-content data specified in the retrieval request, and selecting, from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, the suitable connection method from the connection information table pairing with the extracted file attribute; wherein:

~~wherein~~ the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method;

the received content data is a text file written in a markup language; and

said extracting of the set of the locational information and the file attribute extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each piece of sub-content data from an anchor tag written in the text file.

19. (Previously Presented) A signal operable to execute a computer to perform a method of retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein locational information is allocated to the content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in the server, part of the locational information representing a feature of the content data, said method comprising:

managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data;

generating a retrieval request specifying locational information of content data to be retrieved presently;

receiving, upon reception of the retrieval request generated in said generating of the retrieval request, a suitable connection method pairing with the part of the locational information included in the retrieval request from the connection information table, and selecting, prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified by the retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function based on the received suitable connection method from the connection information table;

wherein the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.

20. (Previously Presented) A signal operable to execute a computer to perform a method of retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, wherein the server is operable to transmit a content header including a file attribute of content data in addition to the content data, said method comprising:

managing a connection information table which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data;

generating a first retrieval request specifying locational information of the content data to be retrieved presently;

generating, upon reception of the first retrieval request generated in said generating of the first retrieval request, a second retrieval request for retrieving only a content header of the content data specified in the first retrieval request;

receiving, from the server, the content header specified in the second retrieval request generated in said generating of the second retrieval request; and

selecting, prior to reception of the content data, a suitable connection method for the content data specified in the first retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function, by extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute included in the content header received in said receiving of the content header from the connection information table.

wherein the connection method is either one of a packet switching connection method and a circuit switching connection method.